

**MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

President K. Davis opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Vice President J. Woehrle; Councilmembers F. O'Boyle; D. Casole; C. Williams and K. Transue. Mayor F. Courtright, Solicitor J. Fareri and Borough Secretary/ Treasurer L. Noonan were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to approve the Re-Organization Meeting minutes of January 4, 2016, as presented. Councilmember K. Transue seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember F. O'Boyle moved to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of January 4, 2016, as presented. Councilmember K. Transue seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT

President K. Davis noted that he has held several meetings the past month with the Vice President and the Mayor, noting that we are a new Council working on bringing the Borough back to the gleaming star that it once was. He stated that he looks forward to working with his executive staff and the future of the Borough.

MAYOR

Mayor F. Courtright stated that he is also looking forward to the coming year and gave a shout out to road crew, noting that they did an excellent job during last weekend's snowstorm. .

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following cash report was given as follows:

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 80,778.35
PENN SECURITY GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	20,692.71
CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT	48,805.46
BANNER BEAUTIFICATION ACCOUNT	2,420.72
STATE LIQUID FUELS	20,718.98
PARK & RECREATION FUND	4,842.95
PLANNING COMMISSION REIMB. FUND	52,775.88
ROAD FUND – GENERAL FUND	127.46
STORMWATER FUND	132,663.71
GENERAL FUND RESERVE PLGIT ACCOUNT	41,701.02
SANITATION FUND	28,392.26
ROUTE 940 CORRIDOR FUND	53,675.00
FIVE POINT INTERSECTION FUND	<u>443,880.60</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 931,475.10**

Councilmember C. Williams moved to pay and approve the bills as outlined in the Treasurer's Report dated Monday, February 1, 2016, as presented. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Affordable Locksmith	(re-key outside doors & interior door)	\$ 617.50
Amerihealth Casualty	(workers comp)	2,450.22
Bartonsville Printing	(business cards: Mayor)	60.00
Berkheimer Associates	(LST Commission)	113.83
Blue Ridge Cable	(phones)	295.04
Boston Mutual	(disability insurance)	240.01
C & S Brothers, Inc.	(nameplates & town clock plaque)	1,017.00
District Justice Reilly	(sidewalk snow violations)	503.00
Ehrlich	(pest control)	85.00
First National Bank	(small tools, supplies, safety gear/tape)	660.04
FirstLab	(breath alcohol test)	35.00
Five Star Equipment	(service/tune up to backhoe/loader)	5,942.67
G & K Services	(uniforms & rug service)	318.92
Gilmore & Associates	(December 2015 engineer fees)	367.50
Highmark Blue Shield	(health insurance)	6,201.26
Journal of Pocono Plateau	(property sale/ad)	104.00
MECAB	(annual dues)	50.00
Mountain Services	(inspection of 2012 Pete)	55.00
Overhead Doors	(new door)	1,275.00
PPL	(electric)	222.82
PA American Water	(water bills)	286.90
PA One Call	(service fee)	1.64
Plociniak Fuel	(heating oil both buildings)	1,685.15
Pocono Lake Supply	(block for wall in basement)	191.61
Pocono Mtns. COG	(annual dues)	200.00
Pocono Mtn. Regional Police	(February Mortgage Payment)	2,811.27
Pocono Mtn. Public Library	(1 mill tax)	316.74
Pocono Mtn. Vol. Fire Co.	(1 mill tax)	316.91
Pocono Mtn. Reg. EMS	(1/2 mill tax)	158.25
Response Computer	(trouble shoot email issues)	350.00
Joseph E. Romansky	(repairs to water line @ maint)	750.00
Selective Insurance	(insurances)	2,362.00
United Concordia	(dental insurance)	365.18
US Postmaster	(postage for meter)	1,000.00
Verdin Company	(1/2 payment for clock)	7,750.00
Verizon Wireless	(phone)	<u>65.41</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 31,474.87**

BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 01/06/16)	\$ 5,625.16
Mt. Pocono Payroll	(w/e 01-13-16)	6,175.81
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 01-22-16)	6,033.29
Mt Pocono Payroll	(w/e 01/29/16)	<u>6,782.19</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 24,616.45**

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BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE STATE LIQUID FUELS ACCOUNT:

Cargill Salt	(de-icing salt)	\$ 4,908.26
Lehigh Hanson	(anti-skid)	1,312.14
PPL	(traffic signals & street lights)	<u>\$ 1,850.53</u>

GRAND TOTAL **\$ 8,070.93**

SOLICITOR

Solicitor J. Fareri presented a cashier's check in the amount of \$10,079.00 which represents the sale of the property on Brunswick Drive.

Solicitor J. Fareri discussed an addendum to the current contract for curbside collection and disposal of municipal waste and recyclable materials with J. P. Mascaro. The proposed amendment to the contract would be to remove the Planned Residential Developments (PRD's) from our current contract and allow J. P. Mascaro to work with them directly for their waste removal services.

Borough Council was in agreement to discuss this further with the Planned Residential Developments (PRD's) at a meeting to be held between now and the March 7th meeting.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Ann C. Shincovich, Director, Pocono Mountain Public Library (PMPL)

Ms. Shincovich was present on behalf of the PMPL and advised the Borough Council of the Library's intention to have a referendum on the next municipal ballot with the ballot question to read: "Shall Mount Pocono Borough levy a tax of an additional 1/3 mil for the duration of twenty (20) years for the aid and maintenance of the Pocono Mountain Public Library and related costs of loan refinancing". Ms. Shincovich also advised the Borough Council that as of December 31, 2015, 1,684 Borough residents used the library of those 1,370 also used the Eastern Monroe Library and 140 used the Clymer Library and 91 used the Barrett Library.

There was discussion regarding the proposed ballot question and the proper method to increase the Library tax. It was noted that in 1993 there was a question on the ballot that was approved by the residents of the Borough of Mount Pocono to establish a 1 mil dedicated Library tax. In 2008, the Library placed a question on the ballot, for an additional one (1) mill increase for the building of a new library. That question was defeated in the Borough.

Solicitor J. Fareri stated that once the one (1) mill tax was approved in 1993 any subsequent request for an increase does not require a ballot question and can be approved by the Borough Council with a majority vote.

Ms. Shincovich stated that they are not seeking that, that they would like to have the ballot question placed during the next municipal election.

Solicitor J. Fareri stated that the Library can continue to proceed in the manner they are currently on however, he will send a letter to the Monroe County Board of Municipal Elections and Voter Registration outlining his interpretation of the law and the Monroe County Solicitor will review and make a determination as to the correct steps or procedures for this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Knob Overlook Brush Cutting

Vice President J. Woehrle stated that he has discussed with Ike Olson of Keystone Tree Specialists the clearing of the Knob Overlook of brush. Vice-President J. Woehrle suggested Council offer a fee of \$2,000.00 to Mr. Olson to complete

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this work. Vice President J. Woehrle noted that Mr. Olson will do this work as time allows so he can keep his crew busy on days where he does not have full day's work.

Councilmember K. Davis moved to grant authorization to Vice President J. Woehrle to offer Ike Olson with Keystone Tree Specialists \$2,000.00 to clear the Knob Overlook and if he does not accept this offer then we will revisit this issue again. Councilmember F. O'Boyle seconded. The motion went to question. Questions discussed were: exactly what would the \$2,000.00 cover, will it be to clear and remove all brush and to haul anything that was cut down up over the railing and how much of a distance would be cleared. In view of these discussions the motion was tabled and it was agreed that Vice President J. Woehrle and Councilmember K. Transue would meet with Mr. Olson to further discuss the project.

NEW BUSINESS

TuWay Mobile Communications Radio Upgrade Quote

Borough Council was in receipt of a quote from TuWay Communication for the upgrade of our radio systems to UHF also providing us with the FCC licensing for UHF Government Spectrum Radio Frequency, the cost estimate included a new antenna and base stations at a cost of \$23,057.21. Vice President J. Woehrle noted that TuWay Communications is a PA Costars vendor and as such we will not need to bid out this proposal.

There was discussion regarding the quotes with Councilmember K. Transue noting that this quote is for the top of the line radios and that it his opinion that we could get a different type of radio that would meet our needs that would be more cost effective.

A lengthy discussion regarding the radios and the type of radios transpired and it was noted that any action on this would be tabled until another quote could be obtained from a vendor that Councilmember K. Transue was familiar with.

Councilmember K. Transue moved to allow TuWay Communication to begin the FCC licensing for the UHF Government Spectrum Radio Frequency at a cost of \$725.000. Councilmember C. William seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pocono Builders Association Banner Request

Borough Council was in receipt of a request from the Pocono Builders Association to hang a banner for their Greater Pocono Home & Outdoor Living Show, being held on March 19th through 20th at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center. The Pocono Builders Association was requesting that the Borough hang a banner across SR 611 beginning March 1st through March 20th.

Vice President J. Woehrle moved to allow Pocono Builders Association to hang a banner across SR 611 for a two (2) week period from March 7th through March 21st, promoting the Greater Pocono Home & Outdoor Living Show, being held on March 19th and March 20th, at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, providing that they list the Borough as and additional insured on their certificate of insurance and that they pay a fee of \$100.00 to cover the costs of hanging and removing the banner. Councilmember K. Transue seconded contingent that should the banner get destroyed due to high the winds that the Borough would remove the banner early. Motion carried unanimously.

Drone Ordinance

There was discussion on the possible need of an Ordinance regulating the use of drones in the Borough. It was agreed that this matter would be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

Zoning Officer Joseph W. Brady Resignation

Borough Council was in receipt of a resignation from the Borough Zoning Officer Joseph W. Brady.

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Councilmember K. Transue moved to accept the resignation of Zoning Officer Joseph W. Brady. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember D. Casole moved to offer Zoning Officer Joseph W. Brady an increased hourly rate for him to remain on a temporary basis as the Borough's part time Zoning Officer until the Borough finds a replacement and to offer him a rate of \$23.70. It was further requested that Mr. Brady work all day Tuesdays and Thursdays until his replacement was found. Vice President J. Woehrle seconded. Motion went to a roll call vote: Councilmember K. Transue, "No"; Councilmember C. Williams, "No"; Vice President J. Woehrle, "Yes"; Councilmember D. Casole, "Yes"; Councilmember F. O'Boyle, "Yes"; and, President K. Davis, "Yes". Motion carried 4 – 2.

Resignation of Councilmember John P. Finnerty

Councilmember K. Transue moved to accept the resignation of John P. Finnerty as a Borough Councilmember. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Vacancy Letters of Interest

President K. Davis acknowledged receipt of letters of interest from four (4) individuals seeking to fill the Council vacancy created by the resignation of former Councilmember John P. Finnerty. President K. Davis noted that the letters of interest received were from: Matt Hensel; John Scalamandre; Mike Oser; and, Thomas Neville. Each of the individuals was present and introduced themselves to Borough Council.

President K. Davis noted that Borough Council would be making a decision on this matter at a Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 6:30 P.M. He advised each of the individuals that they will be receiving a questionnaire via email from the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer tomorrow and that they would have ample time to complete the questionnaire and return for Borough Council's review.

Special Meeting

Vice President J. Woehrle moved to advertise a Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 6:30 P.M. for the purpose of filling the vacancy on Borough Council. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

President K. Davis recognized Libby Leonard who resides at 93 Megargel Lane and who was in attendance at this evening's meeting.

Ms. Leonard introduced herself to Borough Council and asked if she could have meeting with several of the Councilmembers to discuss snow removal on Megargel Lane and how she would go about having a meeting with them. It was noted that she could contact the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer who would then schedule the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Water/Utilities

Councilmember D. Casole gave a detailed water report regarding the recent brown water and the measures and steps taken by PAWC and the Borough regarding notification to the Borough Residents.

Councilmember F. O'Boyle noted that PA DOT will be replacing a four (4) foot main pipe by Fairview Avenue and Oak Street.

Mayor F. Courtright further discussed the brown water incident and that he gave permission for Dave Altmiller with PAWC to place the sign that is out in front of the Borough building to notify the Borough residents.

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Mayor F. Courtright also stated that if you are experiencing problems with your water call PAWC and keep calling don't just assume that your neighbor has made the phone call, the more people that call the better it will be. He also noted that speaking with PAWC; they are working on updating their automated call system that was used regarding this last incident. Mayor F. Courtright further noted that PAWC can't fix problems that they don't know about.

It was noted that the next meeting of Borough Council will be Monday, March 7, 2016.

There was discussion regarding the Borough's email accounts and the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer noted that there will be an additional fee to add more email addresses with @mountpocono-pa.gov for the Councilmembers

Councilmember K. Transue moved to authorize the additional fees for the emails. Councilmember F. O'Boyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Office of Emergency Management Coordinator

There was discussion regarding the Emergency Management Coordinator position and that Vice President J. Woehrle our current Emergency Management Coordinator is looking to step down. It was agreed that Councilmember K. Transue would submit the proper paperwork for approval with PEMA and the Governor's Office to be the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator and Councilmember C. Williams would serve as Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator. It was noted that the Borough Secretary/ Treasurer would work on contacting the Monroe County Safety Center and putting the proper paperwork in play for these appointments and approvals.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Matt Hensel, Cedar Road, questioned the additional cost for the email addresses.

Mike Oser, Fairview Avenue, noted that he strongly opposed the Library tax that was on the ballot the last time and was defeated in 2008. He added that he is in strong opposition of the current increase of the 1/3 Library tax millage.

John Scalamandre, Belmont Avenue, stated that there is misinformation in regards to the Library tax increase.

President K. Davis advised all Councilmembers that in the back of their books they will find a Robert's Rules of Order Quick Study and that they are to remain in your books, but they are there for your easy access should you have any questions, in regards to how the meeting is being run. He noted that we are going to be using Robert's Rules of Order.

There being no further business or any further public participation coming before the Board, Councilmember K. Transue moved to adjourn at 9:30 P.M. Councilmember D. Casole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Noonan, Borough Secretary